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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
11 March 1966

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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Situation in South Vietnam  
(As of 4:00 P.M. EST)

1. There has been no change reported in the situation in Saigon or I Corps since the 12:00 P.M. EST Situation Report.
2. Police Director Lieu--a close associate of General Thi in the past--and Military Security Chief Loan--a firm supporter of Premier Ky--will apparently accompany General Thi should he be allowed to go to Da Nang tomorrow. Thus far, Colonel Lieu has appeared to support the dismissal of Thi; however, his status is still not fully clear according to some US observers. There are some unconfirmed reports that he may be encouraging Thi to resist exile.
3. The next public meeting of the "Civil and Military Struggle Committee of the I Corps" will reportedly be held in Da Nang at 1000 hours on 12 March (about 9:00 P.M. EST Tonight).
4. Radio Hanoi's domestic news service today broadcast an account of yesterday's Directorate meeting in a relatively factual manner, mentioning the dismissal of Thi and describing the situation in Saigon as "still tense."
5. The present chief of Thua Thien Province, Lt. Col. Phan Van Khoa, has stated that he will replace 1st Division commander when General Chuan succeeds to the command of I Corps. Khoa was formerly Chuan's chief of staff; both he and Chuan are natives of Hue and have been considered competent officers and stabilizing factors in the province. Khoa would retain his position as province chief.

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